Docket No.: 20402-00635-US

Art Unit: 1728

Examiner: J. Lorengo

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Hiroto Sumida, et al.

Application No.: 09/973,878

Filed: October 11, 2001

For: CONNECTING MEMBER FOR CONNECTING

CARRIER TAPES AND CARRIER TAPE CONNECTING METHOD USING THIS

CONNECTING MEMBER





FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

298216

FAX TRANSMISSION

DATE: October 28, 2003

PTO IDENTIFIER: Application Number 09/973,878-Conf. #7078

Patent Number .

Inventor: Hiroto Sumida, et al.

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20402-00635-US

PAGES (Including Cover Sheet): 18

CONTENTS: First Preliminary Amendment (9 pages); IDS (Citation) by Applicant (1 page); Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages); Copies of two references (4 pages); and Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8 (1 page).

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